

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Elazar Rabbani et al.

Serial No. 08/978,637

Filed: November 25, 1997

Title: COMPOSITION OF MATTER COMPRISING
PRIMARY NUCLEIC ACID COMPONENT
(As Previously Amended)

Group Art Unit: 1635

Examiner: Mary M. Schmidt

527 Madison Avenue, 9th Floor
New York, New York 10022
August 17, 1999

FILED BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

Honorable Commissioner
of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

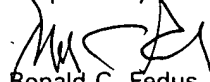
**REQUEST FOR AN EXTENSION OF TIME
(THREE MONTHS) UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)**

Dear Sirs:

Applicants hereby request a three-month extension of time for responding to the February 17, 1999 Office Action issued in connection with their above-identified application. The Patent and Trademark office is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 05-1135 for the requisite small entity fee of \$435.00 for an extension for responding within the three month period as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(3). A response to the February 16, 1999 Office Action was originally due on May 17, 1999. With this extension request, the new deadline for responding to the February 17, 1999 Office Action will be extended to August 17, 1999. Accordingly, the accompanying Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.115 will be timely filed.

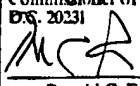
No other fee is believed due in connection with this extension request. If any other fee or fees are due, however, authorization is hereby made to charge the amount of any such other fee(s) to Deposit Account No. 05-1135 or to charge any overpayment thereto. A duplicate copy of this Request is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,


Ronald C. Fedus
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FIRST CLASS CERTIFICATE	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited today with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231	
 Ronald C. Fedus Reg. No. 32,567	AUG 17 99 Date